

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are allowable and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 3 and 7-17 are pending. Claims 2 and 4-6 were canceled by prior amendment without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, 7-11 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,185,530 of Ittycheriah et al. ("Ittycheriah") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,835,667 of Wactlar et al. ("Wactlar"). Claims 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ittycheriah in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,363,348 of Besling et al. ("Besling"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Independent claim 1 of the present application recites training a speech recognition system "by acoustic training using an audio module" by "providing the audio module with vocabulary data in a streaming mode from a telecommunication network." Independent claim 16 recites "a computer-based audio module including a speech synthesis unit configured to receive speech data in a streaming mode from a telecommunication network" wherein "the speech data is spoken into the vocabulary database in an automated manner using the audio module so as to expand the vocabulary database." It is respectfully submitted that neither Ittycheriah nor Wactlar, singly or in combination, teach or suggest providing an audio module used in speech recognition system training or expanding with speech data in a streaming mode from a telecommunication network, as recited in independent claims 1 and 16.

The present Office Action acknowledges that Ittycheriah fails to "teach providing an audio module with vocabulary data in a streaming mode from a telecommunication network," but relies on Wactlar as describing this claimed feature. Office Action, Detailed Action, pages 2-6, item 4.

In particular, the present Office Action states Wactlar discloses that:

- (i) a digital library includes audio data (column 6, lines 40-54);
- (ii) a continuous stream network is in a library system (column 16, line 33 – column 17, line 13);
- (iii) “[t]his is all done to expand the vocabulary and provide valuable additions (column 9, lines 5-16)”; and
- (iv) “[i]t is noted that there is an audio data 18 and 40.”

Detailed Action, page 2, item 2.

It is respectfully submitted that the Office Action has combined unrelated, disparate portions of Wactlar that do not teach or suggest providing an audio module with vocabulary data in a streaming mode from a telecommunication network, as required by claims 1 and 16. With regard to Wactlar’s disclosure of streaming network data identified in the Office Action (Wactlar, column 16, line 33-column 17, line 13), it is respectfully submitted that Wactlar is describing a network architecture 80 for delivery of continuous video to end users from a digital video/audio archive 82. Wactlar’s continuous video is not vocabulary data provided to an audio module, as required by claims 1 and 16. The audio data 18 identified by the Examiner is used in Wactlar offline to create digital library 36. Wactlar, column 6, lines 12-18, 50-54; Fig. 1. The audio data 18 is not provided “in a streaming mode,” as required by claims 1 and 16.

Thus, Wactlar fails to disclose, or suggest, providing an audio module used for acoustic training with vocabulary data in a streaming mode, as required by independent claims 1 and 16.

Additionally, it is respectfully submitted that Besling neither teaches or suggests the above-recited features missing from Ittycheriah and Wactlar.

Because each of Ittycheriah, Wactlar, and Besling fails to teach or suggest the above-recited features of independent claims 1 and 16, no combination of these references, to the extent proper, render obvious independent claims 1 and 16, or any of their respective dependent claims 3, 7-15 and 17.

Application No. 10/797,382
Response dated November 16, 2009
Reply to Final Office Action dated September 16, 2009

Docket No.: 20811/0204770-US0

Accordingly, withdrawal of the respective rejections of claims 1, 3 and 7-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on respective combinations of Ittycheriah, Wactlar, and Besling is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

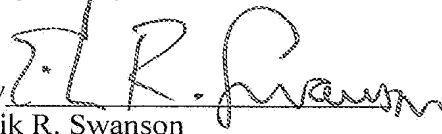
In view of the foregoing, it is believed that remaining claims 1, 3 and 7-17 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any unpaid fees deemed required in connection with this submission, including any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: November 16, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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